



Department of Homeland Security Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 1 May 2008

Current Nationwide
Threat Level is



[For info click here](http://www.dhs.gov/)
<http://www.dhs.gov/>

- CBS News reports a new airport security system, designed to better identify a terrorist or a suspicious traveler by reducing anxiety levels of passengers, was introduced Monday at Baltimore's Thurgood Marshall International airport. The new system is expected to be installed at airports across the country. (See item [12](#))
- According to Cybercast News Service, three anti-war activists damaged a satellite base in New Zealand on Wednesday. The activists say the communications facility is part of a global surveillance system that benefits the U.S. anti-terrorist campaign. (See item [28](#))

DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report Fast Jump

Production Industries: [Energy](#); [Chemical](#); [Nuclear Reactors](#); [Materials and Waste](#); [Defense Industrial Base](#); [Dams](#)

Service Industries: [Banking and Finance](#); [Transportation](#); [Postal and Shipping](#); [Information Technology](#); [Communications](#); [Commercial Facilities](#)

Sustenance and Health: [Agriculture and Food](#); [Water](#); [Public Health and Healthcare](#)

Federal and State: [Government Facilities](#); [Emergency Services](#); [National Monuments and Icons](#)

Energy Sector

Current Electricity Sector Threat Alert Levels: **Physical**: ELEVATED, **Cyber**: ELEVATED

Scale: LOW, GUARDED, ELEVATED, HIGH, SEVERE [Source: ISAC for the Electricity Sector (ES-ISAC) – <http://www.esisac.com>]

1. *April 30, Associated Press* – (Massachusetts) **Companies open emergency center after Boston gas outage.** National Grid and Keyspan plan to open an emergency center Wednesday at the Boston City Hall for customers to submit claims following a natural gas outage that began last weekend. Gas lines were flooded after a break in a city water main Saturday eroded the dirt between the main and the gas lines. Service should soon be restored to Boston's North End, but customers in the financial district may have longer to wait. National Grid crews have pumped out 60,000 gallons so far, and pumping continued Tuesday.

Source:

http://www.boston.com/news/local/massachusetts/articles/2008/04/30/companies_open_emergency_center_after_boston_gas_outtage/

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Chemical Industry Sector

Nothing to Report

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Nuclear Reactors, Materials, and Waste Sector

2. *April 30, Associated Press* – (South Carolina) **Nuclear inspectors visit Oconee station after vibrations.** Federal inspectors are spending a few days at the Oconee Nuclear Station in South Carolina, after three coolant pumps experienced intense vibrations. The Greenville News reported Wednesday the vibrations happened while the pumps were shutting down for a refueling outage on April 12. A spokesperson for the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission said the agency also wanted to take a look at a simultaneous leakage from one pump, as well as possibly degraded conditions in a second pump. Officials will issue a report about 30 days after they complete their investigation.
Source: <http://www.thestate.com/statewire/story/390934.html>
3. *April 30, Reuters* – (Michigan) **AEP Mich. Cook 1 reactor exits refuel.** American Electric Power Co. Inc.'s Unit 1 at the Cook nuclear power station exited an outage and ramped up to 28 percent power by early Wednesday, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission said in a report. The unit shut by March 26 for the refueling outage. On April 25, the unit was in Mode 4 as it started to exit a refueling outage when workers found "wisps of steam from a 3/4-inch flow instrument line weld." The leakage was less than 0.1 gallon per minute. The company cooled down the plant and depressurized the reactor as required by its technical specifications.
Source:
<http://www.reuters.com/article/marketsNews/idUSN3042312020080430?pageNumber=1&virtualBrandChannel=0>
4. *April 30, Associated Press* – (Vermont) **Vermont governor likely to veto decommissioning bill.** It looks likely that the governor of Vermont will veto a bill relating to the decommissioning of Vermont Yankee. The bill says that if Vermont Yankee is transferred to a new limited liability company, the new company has to prove it can cover the full cost of dismantling the plant. Entergy Nuclear wants to create a spin-off company to manage Vermont Yankee and four other northeastern nuclear plants and one in Michigan. But lawmakers have questioned whether the new company will have the estimated \$800 million it is likely to cost to dismantle the plant when it eventually shuts down. Meanwhile, lawmakers will be meeting Wednesday in a conference committee to hash out what sort of inspection the plant should get before it is allowed to extend its license for another 20 years.
Source: http://www.vpr.net/news_detail/80339/

5. *April 30, News & Observer* – (North Carolina; South Carolina) **Duke can shield nuclear estimate.** The North Carolina Utilities Commission on Tuesday agreed with Duke Energy that the estimated cost of a proposed nuclear plant is protected as a trade secret under state law. Duke has proposed building a nuclear plant in Cherokee County, South Carolina, that would generate power for the Carolinas. Opponents of nuclear energy next will turn to South Carolina in their campaign to force Duke Energy to disclose its estimated costs. South Carolina regulators last week kept the public disclosure request alive by asking Duke to explain which cost details should be shielded from public disclosure and why. South Carolina regulators are expected to rule on the matter in May.

Source: <http://www.newsobserver.com/business/story/1055058.html>

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Defense Industrial Base Sector

6. *April 30, Defense News* – (National) **Small robots to undergo U.S. Army testing.** The U.S. Army's Future Combat Systems (FCS) has begun testing of the first small unmanned ground vehicles (SUGVs) to arrive at Fort Bliss, Texas. The SUGV is a 30-pound tactical robot designed to search for bombs, clear caves and buildings, and give soldiers eyes around corners in combat. In a \$6 million deal with Boeing, iRobot will deliver 25 SUGVs for testing by May. iRobot has roughly 1,000 PackBot robots with soldiers and Marines in Iraq and Afghanistan; their lifesaving performance in combat has influenced FCS' acceleration of the SUGV. The first group of FCS SUGV robots will deploy with commercial off-the-shelf sensors, not FCS sensors. Nor will they have Joint Tactical Radio Systems, the software-programmable radio designed to move images, video, and data, or the full C4ISR suite that makes up the core of the FCS network. In the months ahead, iRobot may add to the SUGV chemical, biological, and radiation sensors such as the company's ICX FIDO kit, which examines the air for explosive residue. Also, the Army Research Night Vision Lab is working on through-the-wall X-ray technology and ground-penetrating radar so that robots can detect buried explosives.

Source: <http://www.defensenews.com/story.php?i=3503836&c=AME&s=LAN>

7. *April 29, Strategy Page* – (National) **Global Hawk rules the Pacific.** An RQ-4A Global Hawk made the first non-stop crossing of the Pacific, flying about 7456 miles, from California to Australia, in 23 hours. In the last seven years, RQ-4s have flown over 20,000 hours, most of that combat missions, and many of them from Persian Gulf bases. The latest models have been able to fly 20 hour missions, land for refueling and maintenance, and be off in four hours for another twenty hours in the sky. The RQ-4 has been very reliable, with aircraft being ready for action 95 percent of the time. The U.S. Air Force has been buying them at the rate of five a year, at a cost of \$58 million each. The Air Force is stationing a squadron of seven Global Hawks on the island of Guam. These UAVs will begin arriving there next year, and undertake reconnaissance missions throughout the western Pacific. The U.S. Navy is buying 44 Global Hawks to perform maritime reconnaissance.

Source: <http://www.strategypage.com/htmw/htairfo/articles/20080429.aspx>

8. *April 28, Aviation Week* – (National) **New USAF bomber could fly as ISR penetrator.** The U.S. Air Force is considering fielding a variant of its next-generation bomber that could collect intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance (ISR) undetected behind enemy lines. The Air Force secretary says the service is on “a quest to have long-range reconnaissance.” He says that an unmanned version of the bomber, which is expected to be fielded in 2018, would be a strong candidate for this mission. Penetrating ISR has been lacking since the retirement of the SR-71 Blackbird in the 1990s. The U-2 and Global Hawk unmanned aerial vehicle can collect a variety of intelligence, but their vulnerability to detection forces them to operate at standoff ranges. The U-2 carries more sophisticated sensors but is limited to about 12 hours of flight time. The Global Hawk, which has flown missions lasting longer than a day, has not yet proven its ability to collect signals intelligence. The bomber platform is expected to be subsonic, highly stealthy, and carry between 28,000-40,000 pounds of payload. An ISR version could operate undetected in airspace defended by the most advanced double-digit surface-to-air-missile systems. Service officials still expect to keep a pilot in the bomber cockpit for those variants certified to deliver nuclear weapons. A technology hurdle will be to reduce the infrared signature emitted from the bomber’s propulsion system. It remains unclear whether systems with serpentine exhaust and a reduced signature will be ready for the initial fielding of the bomber in 2018.

Source:

<http://www.aviationweek.com/aw/generic/story.jsp?id=news/NEXT042808.xml&headline=New%20USAF%20Bomber%20Could%20Fly%20As%20ISR%20Penetrator&channel=defense>

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Banking and Finance Sector

9. *April 30, Lafayette Daily Advertiser* – (National) **Better Business Bureau: Advance fee loan scams still find victims.** Despite regular cautions by the Better Business Bureau, consumers continue to fall for advance fee loan offers in record numbers. The scenario is something like this: A small printed advertisement appears in the newspaper or on the Internet suggesting “Money to lend, debt consolidation, personal car and small business loans for people who have good/bad credit and past bankruptcies. Call Toll-Free Now!” The caller contacts the number and receives forms asking the consumer to submit personal information, including copies of driver’s licenses, employment records, Social Security numbers, bank account information and credit card numbers. Later a friendly, polite telephone caller responds with the good news. The loan has been approved, but an insurance fee, processing fee or three months advance payment is needed before the loan is released and the check delivered. The customer is asked to pay the fee immediately through electronic transfer of the money. The money is picked-up by the “loan” broker, but the promised loan never arrives and the up front fee paid by the consumer (which can total several thousand dollars) is lost. The BBB of Acadiana, Louisiana, advises consumers who are in need of extra cash to thoroughly investigate all advertised offers of “easy credit” or “easy loans” from unfamiliar loan brokers. The sad news is it is very

seldom that the company can be located to get the loan fee returned to the consumer.

Source:

<http://www.theadvertiser.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20080430/BUSINESS/804300301/1046>

10. *April 29, Information Security* – (National) **Credit card thieves target small merchants, flawed POS systems, study finds.** More often than not, attackers who aim to steal credit card data are targeting small, brick-and-mortar merchants and exploiting vulnerable point-of-sale (POS) systems, according to a study recently released by Trustwave. Trustwave looked at 350 payment card compromises in 14 countries between January 2006 and December 2007, concluding, against popular perception, that using credit cards online is safer than at a physical store and contradicting the idea that attackers target large merchants for their wealth of data. Seventy-percent of breaches occurred at brick-and-mortar merchants, and 92 percent of the merchants were Level 4, meaning they handle less than 1 million credit card transactions annually. More than half of the compromises Trustwave investigated occurred in the food service industry. Small stores and restaurants do not have as many resources for security as large vendors and e-commerce shops, and may use POS systems that are improperly configured by a third party. Another common problem occurs when contractors use an unsecured remote access system to support the merchant's network and POS devices.

Source:

http://searchsecurity.techtarget.com/news/article/0,289142,sid14_gci1311702,00.html

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Transportation Sector

11. *April 30, Argus Leader* – (South Dakota) **Plane makes emergency stop at airport.** A Comair plane was forced to make an emergency landing Tuesday afternoon in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, after a landing gear problem was detected. Delta flight 5052 left Sioux Falls Regional Airport at 2:15 p.m. bound for Atlanta with 23 passengers. Shortly after takeoff, pilots realized they could not raise the right side landing gear, said a Comair spokesman. The 50-seat plane appeared to be leaking hydraulic fluid for the landing gear. The plane returned to Sioux Falls, landing safely at 2:37 p.m.
12. *April 29, CBS News* – (Maryland) **Airport security gets mellow.** A new airport security system, designed to better identify a terrorist or a suspicious traveler by reducing anxiety levels of passengers, was introduced Monday at Baltimore's Thurgood Marshall International airport. The security checkpoint combines new high-tech x-ray machines with calming lights and soothing music. The system is aimed at reducing the stress of passengers as they shove carry-ons through airport metal detectors while trying to balance themselves as they remove their shoes and dig for their boarding pass. The Homeland Security Secretary said that by lowering the stress level for everybody with a more soothing environment, it is hoped that someone who is up to no good will stand

out more. The system is expected to be installed at airports across the country in future.
Source:

http://www.cbsnews.com/stories/2008/04/29/cbsnews_investigates/main4053175.shtml

13. *April 29, WTVF 5 Nashville* – (National) **FAA stalls action on ‘unsafe’ airliner insulation.** About once a day, an airliner is forced to make an emergency landing because of smoke in the plane. A NewsChannel 5 Investigation uncovered a problem that the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) itself says could lead to a catastrophe. Safety advocates say the test videos – obtained from the FAA’s own files – show how easily a fire could be ignited, spreading flames throughout the attic of an airliner. At the center of the concerns: insulation on Boeing aircraft produced in the 1980s. Insulation blankets, which are supposed to protect passengers, completely wrap airliner’ hulls. Videos from the FAA’s research center show that the insulation – known as AN-26 – is actually very flammable. Additionally, a highly explosive type of wiring, called Kapton, is found on some of the very same aircraft. “It’s like gasoline on a fire,” says a former Department of Defense wiring specialist. The FAA videos show how those flames could spread from one insulation blanket to another. In fact, crash investigators discovered it was just that type of fire that sent SwissAir 111 crashing into the Atlantic 10 years ago. The video shows why the FAA ordered the removal of another flammable insulation – called metalized Mylar – from hundreds of older McDonnell-Douglas aircraft. But for some reason, the insulation on the Boeing aircraft escaped the FAA’s attention.

Source: <http://www.newschannel5.com/Global/story.asp?S=8246201>

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Postal and Shipping Sector

Nothing to Report

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Agriculture and Food Sector

14. *April 29, Press-Enterprise* – (National) **USDA isn’t on board with beef industry’s downer cow ban.** A week after the meat industry called for a ban on downer cows in the nation’s food supply, the U.S. Agriculture Department has not agreed to change a policy that allows some sick or injured cows to end up on dinner tables. Downers are generally prohibited from the food supply, but current rules allow for exceptions. Meat producers fought to preserve those exceptions until last week, when a coalition of major industry groups reversed their position and joined animal advocates and several lawmakers in calling for an absolute ban. But the Agriculture Secretary, who defended the current policy during congressional hearings into the Chino meat recall, has remained silent. Industry officials said delays are to be expected with any federal rule change and said they have called upon the nation’s meat plants to implement a voluntary moratorium on slaughtering downers until a new policy can be enacted. Downers are considered more likely to have mad cow disease and other illnesses, and therefore pose a greater threat to people who eat them.

Source:

http://www.pe.com/localnews/politics/stories/PE_News_Local_D_downer30.3c23b75.html

15. *April 30, Washington Post* – (National) **Report targets costs of factory farming.** Factory farming takes a big, hidden toll on human health and the environment, is undermining rural America's economic stability, and fails to provide the humane treatment of livestock increasingly demanded by American consumers, concludes an independent, two and a half year analysis that calls for major changes in the way corporate agriculture produces meat, milk, and eggs. The report released yesterday, sponsored by the Pew Charitable Trusts and Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, finds that the “economies of scale” used to justify factory farming practices are largely an illusion, perpetuated by a failure to account for associated costs. Among those costs are human illnesses caused by drug-resistant bacteria associated with the rampant use of antibiotics on feedlots and the degradation of land, water and air quality caused by animal waste too intensely concentrated to be neutralized by natural processes.
Source: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2008/04/29/AR2008042902602.html>
16. *April 29, Reuters* – (International) **Russia bans pork imports from 4 US plants.** Russia has banned U.S. pork imports from two Tyson Fresh plants and two Farmland Foods plants as of May 5, the U.S. Department of Agriculture said late Monday. The USDA did not state the reason for the ban.
Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/marketsNews/idUSWBT00889020080429>

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Water Sector

17. *April 29, Daily News of Newburyport* – (Massachusetts) **Seabrook may close well area to ATVs.** The water superintendent of Seabrook, New Hampshire, said last Monday that ATV riders did so much damage to the ground around the town's water-supply well field that it took a work crew the better part of the day to repair things. As a result, town officials are threatening to close off the entire area to the off-road vehicles. The public works director of Salisbury, Massachusetts, a nearby town which prohibits ATV access to its well field, said, “Watershed districts are to be protected. We don't want motorized vehicles in there. It could cause erosion; fuel could be spilled. I'm concerned kids in there could get hurt, especially at night, or unwittingly do damage to the wells' infrastructures.”
Source: http://www.newburyportnews.com/punews/local_story_120000410.html
18. *April 28, KNBC 4 Los Angeles* – (California) **Missing documents obtained in LAUSD water investigation.** There is new evidence that the Los Angeles Unified School District knew in recent years that the drinking water at numerous schools was tainted with high levels of lead. Almost a month ago, a local television station asked the school district for records of any testing it had done in recent years for lead in the water at schools. Officials told them they had not done much testing, and that the records the

reporter wanted did not exist. Eventually, the school district released those documents. Buried away in the files at the L.A. Unified School District are test results that show the district analyzed drinking water at numerous schools starting in the late 1990s, and found dangerous amounts of lead. Records now show the district found high levels of lead in the water there eight years ago. But officials have been telling parents recently the problem was first discovered last fall.

Source: <http://www.knbc.com/news/16042826/detail.html>

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Public Health and Healthcare Sector

19. *April 29, Agence France-Presse* – (International) **West, Central Africa seen as major source of next new disease.** West and Central Africa are emerging as the major potential sources for the next new infectious disease, a study released on Wednesday said. Deforestation in these regions is forcing wild animals that are a natural host for pathogens into ever smaller areas and into ever likelier contact with fast-growing human populations, it said. The paper, published in the Proceedings of the Royal Society B, looks at how new, killer diseases such as AIDS, Ebola, and bird flu have leapt the species barrier to humans in the past three decades. Its authors found that closely related primates – monkeys, chimpanzees, gorillas, and humans – pose the biggest risk of “host shift” as they share similar biology and immune responses, and are vulnerable to many of the same microbes.

Source: http://afp.google.com/article/ALeqM5iI3zjg_5kwfVNPJzIrCvVhA7bZ2A

20. *April 29, Agence France-Presse* – (International) **Chinese officials accused of covering up killer virus.** Local authorities in eastern China tried to cover up an outbreak of a highly contagious virus that has killed 20 children and left more than 1,500 others ill, Chinese press reports said Tuesday. The China Youth Daily compared the situation in Anhui province to the cover-up by Chinese officials of the SARS crisis in 2003. The first reports of the outbreak of the intestinal virus known as enterovirus 71, or EV71, emerged on Monday, with local Chinese officials quoted as saying 19 children had died and nearly 800 had been infected. By Tuesday, the official Xinhua news agency said the death toll had risen to 20 with 1,520 children infected. But hospitals in Fuyang city in Anhui started in early March to take in children with fever, blisters, mouth ulcers, or rashes on the hands and feet, all symptoms of the virus.

Source: <http://afp.google.com/article/ALeqM5j6mdSwENOXWVvDSDeigQxwy-6vxQ>

21. *April 29, Voice of America* – (National) **US FDA officials ask for resources, authorities to improve drug safety.** Officials of the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) say Congress must provide them with more resources and authorities to ensure the safety of imported drugs. A congressional hearing Tuesday included testimony by family members of people whose deaths are thought to have been caused by contaminated doses of the medication Heparin. Baxter’s CEO expressed regret, saying the company believes the contaminant known as over-sulfated chondroitin sulfate was added to Heparin deliberately.

Source: <http://www.voanews.com/english/2008-04-29-voa71.cfm>

Government Facilities Sector

22. *April 29, Associated Press* – (California) **Crude bottle bomb explodes at Calif. school, 2 others found.** Authorities say a crude bomb containing fish hooks and BBs packed inside a plastic bottle exploded this weekend at a Northern California junior high school. No one was injured. Police found the homemade device Sunday night on the basketball court of Bidwell Junior High School. Chico police officers also found two unexploded bottles near the court. Authorities do not believe anyone was in the area at the time of the explosion. A police sergeant said homemade devices are showing up more frequently on house porches and mailboxes in the Chico area. This was the first time the bottles have contained dangerous shrapnel.
Source: <http://www.foxnews.com/wires/2008Apr29/0,4670,BottleBombs,00.html>
23. *April 29, Columbian* – (Washington) **Three injured in high school explosion.** In Washington, an Evergreen High School student suffered ear injuries when an explosive device went off shortly before 2 p.m. Tuesday at the school. Two staff members reported minor injuries and asked for medical assistance. They were taken to the hospital. Early radio reports indicate that staff members were searching a student's backpack when a plastic bag of small, snap-type firecrackers went off accidentally. The explosion occurred in a staff area, and classes were not canceled. The regional bomb squad was investigating Tuesday afternoon, said a Vancouver police spokeswoman.
Source: http://www.columbian.com/news/localNews/2008/04/04292008_Three-injured-in-high-school-explosion.cfm
24. *April 29, Washington Post* – (Maryland) **Pr. George's complex evacuated after bomb threat.** In Maryland, a Prince George's County police station and other buildings in a government complex in Hyattsville were briefly evacuated today after a bomb threat, and a nearby portion of Rhode Island Avenue was closed for part of the afternoon, police said. A county police commander said a bomb threat was made to the courthouse by telephone about 2 p.m. Officers evacuated the building and began a sweep of the facility.
Source: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2008/04/29/AR2008042902026.html>
25. *April 29, WKBT 8 La Crosse* – (Wisconsin) **Two area middle schools evacuated for bomb threat.** In Wisconsin, Onalaska and Holmen Middle Schools were evacuated after a bomb threat was found in one of the schools. The principal of Onalaska said a note was found in a bathroom just before noon. Students and staff at Onalaska Middle School were evacuated. The note found in Onalaska also referenced a threat at Holmen Middle School. Holmen school officials were notified, and students and staff were evacuated at around 12:30 p.m. Police and fire officials searched both buildings, and no threat was found. Students were allowed to return to school around 1 p.m. At the Onalaska Middle School, this is the second bomb threat in less than two weeks, and the fifth bomb threat this school year.

Source: http://wkbt.com/Global/story.asp?S=8244155&nav=menu239_2

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Emergency Services Sector

26. *April 30, East Valley Tribune* – (Arizona) **Districts to install emergency response system.** The Scottsdale and Mesa unified school districts will be the first in the state to install Rapid Responder, a Web-based system that gives school officials and emergency personnel access to school emergency plans, contact information, floor plans, views from different parts of the campuses, and other information to help first responders deal with a crisis. Both districts are working with Washington state-based Prepared Response, the company that developed the system, with grant money from the U.S. Department of Education. Scottsdale received \$364,000 to put its 33 school sites and an administrative building on the system, which it hopes to have completely online in May; Mesa got \$872,000 to map out its 89 school campuses and four administrative sites, which it had online in March. School districts have always had emergency response plans, but no one can have bulky plans at their fingertips at all times, while this new system can be accessed from anywhere – even the computers in police cars.

Source: <http://www.eastvalleytribune.com/story/115105>

27. *April 30, Chattanooga Times Free Press* – (Tennessee) **Chattanooga: Emergency services respond to mock chlorine leak.** At the Fire and Police Training Center the Chattanooga Fire Department, Hazardous Materials Unit, Emergency Medical Services, and the Chattanooga Police Department responded to an exercise simulating a truck crashing into a chlorine tank Tuesday morning, one of several simulated drills practiced by Hamilton County emergency personnel each year. The process is not one of quick response, a fire department spokesman said. During a real leak, officials would take time to accurately determine what chemical or gas was leaking and help responders devise a plan to contain and stop the leak. At the same time Tuesday, the county also tested its rapid public notification system — commonly called Reverse 911 — by calling 500 residents within 1.5 miles of the center. The spokesman said he wanted to look into adding cell phone numbers to the Reverse 911 system database and that personnel also will look into the emergency alert system that informs TV and radio stations about an emergency so they can broadcast it to viewers. All local TV stations received the alert Tuesday, though they did not immediately pass it on to viewers because they were airing a presidential news conference at the time. Only two radio stations, including primary Emergency Alert System station WUSY-FM (100.7), received and broadcast the message, while many stations said they did not receive it.

Source: <http://timesfreepress.com/news/2008/apr/30/chattanooga-emergency-services-respond-mock-chlori/?local>

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Information Technology

Nothing to Report

Internet Alert Dashboard

To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US-CERT at soc@us-cert.gov or visit their Website: <http://www.us-cert.gov>.

Information on IT information sharing and analysis can be found at the IT ISAC (Information Sharing and Analysis Center) Website: <https://www.it-isac.org/>.

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Communications Sector

28. *April 30, Cybercast News Service* – (International) **Satellite base damaged in anti-US protest.** Anti-war activists in New Zealand early Wednesday broke into a communications facility they say is part of a global surveillance system that benefits the U.S. anti-terrorist campaign. Three men were arrested after members of a group calling itself ANZAC Ploughshares said they cut through fences and slashed one of two giant white radomes covering satellite dishes, deflating the ball-shaped structure. The Waihopai base on New Zealand's South Island is operated by the Government Communications Security Bureau. The Wellington-based agency says its functions are to collect and provide the New Zealand government with foreign intelligence, and to provide advice and expertise to ensure that the government's official information is protected. Groups that have been protesting against the site for years claim it is part of a global eavesdropping network providing intelligence to the U.S. National Security Agency and involving listening stations in Britain, Australia, New Zealand, and Canada. Source:

<http://www.cnsnews.com/news/viewstory.asp?Page=/ForeignBureaus/archive/200804/FOR20080430b.html>

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Commercial Facilities Sector

Nothing to Report

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National Monuments & Icons Sector

29. *April 30, KTAR 92.3 Phoenix and Associated Press* – (Arizona) **Fire crews battling blaze near Grand Canyon.** Crews feared high winds today as they battled a 2,000-acre wildfire burning in the Kaibab National Forest near the Grand Canyon. The X Fire started Tuesday and quickly spread. "It's about a mile south of the park's boundary and over two miles from the park's roads," a representative of National Park Service said this morning. Authorities believe the X Fire was human-caused. A fire investigator was sent to the scene to determine the specific cause.

Source: <http://ktar.com/?nid=6&sid=822585&r=1>

Dams Sector

30. *April 30, Wyoming County Press Examiner* – (Pennsylvania) **High-hazard dam needs fix.** Nearly \$2 million will be needed to repair a high-hazard dam owned by the state at Stevens Lake, north of Tunkhannock, Pennsylvania, according to commissioners on Tuesday. Commissioners noted that they received a letter from the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission deputy director that stated it will cost \$1.8 million to replace and widen the structure's concrete spillway. The fish and boat commission will work jointly with state and local officials to prioritize repairs, which depend "heavily on local participation and the commitment of local funds." Potential failure and immediacy of needed repairs will be other factors considered by the fish and boat commission. The Stevens Lake dam is one of 16 state-owned dams that were classified as high-hazards last year. About 21 people would be in harm's way if the dam at Stevens Lake fails.
Source: http://www.newage-examiner.com/site/news.cfm?BRD=2310&dept_id=480505&newsid=19528216&PAG=461&rft=9
31. *April 29, Taunton Daily Gazette* – (Massachusetts) **Decision on dam lawsuit delayed.** A Superior Court judge did not issue a ruling Tuesday on a preliminary injunction request seeking immediate repairs to the cofferdam and Morey's Bridge dam in Taunton. Claiming that the cofferdam at Lake Sabbatia poses a threat to public safety and was built without proper licensing, permitting, or supervision, five citizens filed a lawsuit earlier this month. Arguing that the city and state Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) are "incapable of policing" the situation, their lawyer referenced several documents, including a report from CLE Engineering, the firm hired by Jefferson Development Partners, the company responsible for the cofferdam. The report said the cofferdam was a "high hazard potential structure" and is in "unsafe condition." An assistant attorney general, representing the DEP, argued that the injunction should not be granted, saying the issue was the department's jurisdiction and that the agency is already taking action. He also said the cofferdam was illegally constructed, and explained that is why the agency was taking action. The other defendants are the city; the Conservation Commission; the DEP; the president of Help Save the Lake, the volunteer group that built the cofferdam; and an engineer and member of Help Save the Lake and the Conservation Commission.
Source: <http://www.tauntongazette.com/news/x292026154>

DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report Contact Information

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DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report Contact Information

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